

South Carolina

YOUNG FARMER *and* FUTURE FARMER *Magazine*

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South Carolina Young Farmer Of The Year — Tolbert Mitchell and his wife, Marcia.



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And Future Farmers
Of South Carolina



South Carolina

YOUNG FARMER & FUTURE FARMER Magazine

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Notes from the Executive Secretary



TO YOUNG FARMERS

By Hugh P. McClimon

The Association celebrated another successful year with the 37th Annual State Convention held Jan. 18-19 at The Landmark in Myrtle Beach. Participants enjoyed a well-planned and informative program.

The next convention will be held in the Columbia area and the Executive Committee plans to make a special effort to increase attendance. All chapters should send delegates and all members should plan to participate.

During the business session, delegates voted to increase state membership dues to \$6. This increase was necessary to support the National Young Farmer Educational Association Inc. National dues were increased to \$2 at the summer business meeting of delegates. These funds will be used to support, coordinate and promote the Young Farmer program at the national level.

Our state had 34 chapters with 1,013 members last year. Efforts should be made to increase these numbers for this year. All chapters are reminded that dues and membership lists must be submitted before May 31.

The Contests Awards Program will be continued on the same basis as 1984. Contacts are being made to secure sponsorship of the proposed Forest Management Awards. This program should be of interest to many members. The purpose is to encourage members to improve the productivity and economic value of forests and timberlands through the use of recommended production and management practices.

The Bowman Chapter is making plans to host the ninth summer tour. Information will be provided as soon as arrangements and details are completed.

TO FUTURE FARMERS

By J. Earl Frick, Jr.

The 1985 State FFA Convention will be held June 12-14 at Clemson University. Each FFA chapter that has submitted dues and is in good standing with the State FFA Association should have at least two voting delegates along with contest and award winners present at the convention.

Michael Gayaldo, national FFA secretary of Kelseyville, Calif., will address the convention and present several awards throughout the week.

State contests will be held in Farm Business Management, FFA Creed Speaking, Agricultural Mechanics, Floriculture, Nursery/Landscape, Parliamentary Procedure and Public Speaking. Numerous individuals and chapters will receive special recognition for accomplishments in the FFA contest and awards program.

The Cherry Grove FFA Camp will open for camping on June 17. The leadership conference for chapter officers will be held June 25-28, and the camp will remain open for regular camping July 1-5 and July 8-12.

The camping program offers an exciting week of recreation, education, leadership training and fellowship. The atmosphere is relaxed, and everyone who attends is guaranteed a rewarding experience. Join fellow FFA members from throughout South Carolina at the Cherry Grove FFA Camp this summer.

Teachers may submit camp attendance requests to Earl Frick or Mr. Edens, camp director. Plan now to attend the state FFA convention and state camp this summer.

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Young Farmers Meet At Myrtle Beach

The 37th annual convention of the South Carolina Association of Young Farmers began with a luncheon at The Landmark in Myrtle Beach on Jan. 18 for state officers, officer candidates, state executive committee members with their wives and the state staff.

The farm group convened with a welcome by President David Shuler. Shuler then presided over a short business session where reports were given by standing committees on Program of Work, Auditing and Finance, Contests and Awards, Publicity and Recreation.

Following the business session, Norwood McLeod, marketing specialist with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, spoke on "Growing Specialty Crops in South Carolina." With the help of a slide program that he produced after a visit to New Zealand, McLeod covered the management techniques required for kiwifruit and feijoas, pointing out that South Carolina climate and soil are favorable for growing both fruits. Many South Carolinians are already familiar with kiwifruit which is imported presently from New Zealand and can be found at many grocery stores.

Buddy Watkins, extension agriculture economist at Clemson University, spoke on "Farm Use of Computers," stating that a modest investment in equipment, software and appropriate programming can release some recordkeeping time for other more productive farm projects. Available equipment was displayed and demonstrated for those interested in considering their use.

After greetings by Paula Shuler, wife of President David Shuler, and an introduction of guests by Suzette Reynolds, the ladies enjoyed a demonstration by Beverly Robertson, chef at The Landmark, on preparing Banana Foster — a delectable topping for ice cream.

Following the afternoon session, young farmers, wives, guests, friends and sponsors gathered for the annual awards banquet which is the highlight of the convention. Awards were presented to the district and state winners in several areas including irrigated and non-irrigated corn and soybean production, livestock production, energy efficiency and chapter achievement.

The highlight of the awards banquet was the recognition of the district and state



Buddy Watkins, extension agriculture economist at Clemson University, speaks on "Farm Use of Microcomputers."

1984 Young Farmers of the Year. Prior to the presentation of awards, Dr. Lloyd Blanton of the Agricultural Education Department at Clemson University presented a color-slide talk show as an introduction of the homes, equipment, farm programs and families of the district and state Young Farmers of the Year.

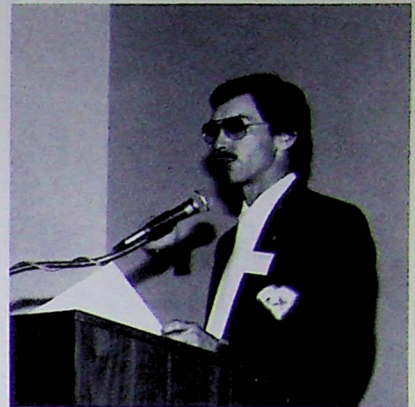
Following the slide program, Wrenn Bagley, vice president of the Federal Land Bank of Columbia and the Federal Intermediate Credit Bank of Columbia, recognized the Young Farmer and presented the awards.

Concluding the evening banquet and awards, Janis Galloway, wife of Ray Galloway who is past president of the Association, introduced Dr. Wayne Ates, a Baptist minister from Statesboro, Ga.

Dr. Ates, "The Physician Of The Spirit," entertained the group with jokes and humorous stories about family and human relationships emphasizing spiritual awareness in development of the whole person.

The final session was held Saturday morning and featured presentations of membership and attendance awards by Southern Grain Storage Distributors. Special donors to the Young Farmer Program in South Carolina were recognized along with awards for outstanding service.

State Future Farmers of America President Tracy Yarborough of Lake City brought greetings from his association. Harry Wimberly, vice president of the Bowman Chapter, gave a report on the summer tour. David Shuler gave the report on the 18th National Young Farmers Institute. The nominating committee re-



David Shuler, president at the opening session.



Dr. Wayne Ates of Statesboro, Ga., entertains and motivates at the annual awards banquet.



Norwood McLeod, marketing specialist with the South Carolina Department of Agriculture, speaks about "Growing Specialty Crops in South Carolina."

port was given by Dan Alt, past president of the Chester Chapter.

The morning session ended with the election of the officers to lead the association for 1985.

Young Farmers Of The Year



"Young Farmer of the Year" — Tolbert Mitchell, Saluda winner; Gary Howell, Lamar winner; and

Charles E. Reeves, St. George winner.

The outstanding district young farmers for 1984 were recognized and the Young Farmer of the Year was selected at the 37th annual convention at Myrtle Beach.

The awards are designed to recognize young farmers throughout South Carolina who have made outstanding efforts and programs in becoming established in farming. Home and community involvement along with Young Farmer activities are also considered.

Each district winner received an engraved tray and \$150. The state winner received an engraved bowl and \$300. The wives of Young Farmers of the Year were also recognized.

The award-winning young farmers are: state winner Tolbert Mitchell of the Saluda Chapter, Dan Henderson and John Crawford, advisors; Gary Howell of the Lamar Chapter, Al Jeffords, advisor; Charles Reeves of the St. George Chapter, M. Baker, advisor; and Richard Harper of the York Chapter, Frank Sandifer, advisor.



**Preparing
'Banana Foster'**



Taking it in...

Ladies Treated To Banana Foster

The ladies were treated to a cooking demonstration during the convention.

Beverly Robertson, chef at the Landmark in Myrtle Beach demonstrated

the art of preparing "Banana Foster."

This was just one of the many interesting programs that was enjoyed by the many who attended the convention.

Meet The 1984 Young Farmers Of The Year

South Carolina's Young Farmer of 1984 is Tolbert Mitchell who raises swine and beef cattle. A member of the Saluda Chapter, his advisors are John R. Crawford and Dan Henderson.

Mitchell supervises a variety of activities that go into maintaining herds of over 1,900 swine and 300 beef cattle on the 1,500-acre farm. He also grows corn, wheat, soybeans, milo, oats and hay on about 750 acres of this farm.

To make a go of it, Mitchell says that the work on the farm starts at sunrise and goes past sunset, seven days a week. A large garden provides most of the food for not only his family but farm tenants as well. A catfish pond is maintained, adding to the protein available on the farm. With a dip net and a little bait, fried or stewed catfish is readily available.

Also of interest is the timber salvage operation which was begun after a serious infestation of the southern pine beetle a couple years ago in his farm woodland. Quite a large volume of stored lumber is available for construction and repairs around the farm by cutting on shares with a small portable sawmill operator.

Marcia, Mitchell's wife, though not raised on a farm, has adapted fully to farm life and provides not only moral support,



"Young Farmer of the Year" — Tolbert and Marcia Mitchell and Wrenn Bagley, vice president of

the Federal Land Bank of Columbia.

but physical help as well, as she cares for the home and their two sons, Travis and Chris.

Meticulous recordkeeping, prompt re-

pairs, equipment maintenance and constant surveillance of and attention to the health and needs of the livestock are all important.

Harper

Richard Harper Jr., Young Farmer winner in District II, is a member of the York

Chapter. His advisor is Frank Sandifer. Harper operates a 1,100-acre farm in

the rolling piedmont hills of York County. Since he does not raise any row crops, the entire farm of green pasture dotted with beef cattle is quite a beautiful sight. Along with his 450 head of cattle, Harper raises swine from 100 brood sows for the market.



Richard Harper, Jr, is shown with his family; son Craig, daughter Lee, and wife Ruth.

Harper accepts the task of managing an efficient operation as a real challenge that comes with an appropriate return on the investment of equipment, brood stock and labor. He understands the need for documentation and keeps excellent records. He makes every effort to keep abreast of farm economic trends and new farming techniques.

Harper and his wife, Ruth, have three children, Lee, Craig and Carrie. They are active in community and church affairs.

1984 Young Farmers Of The Year

Reeves

Charles E. Reeves, Young Farmer winner in District IV, is a member of the St. George Chapter. His advisor is M. Baker.

Reeves, a very outgoing and personable individual, is dedicated to the business of raising swine. Champion stock was his aim from the beginning of his efforts in animal husbandry. His champion and highly bred boars, which are sought after nationally, take him to numerous swine shows and sales throughout the country. He is willing to pay the price for breeding stock that will improve his herd.

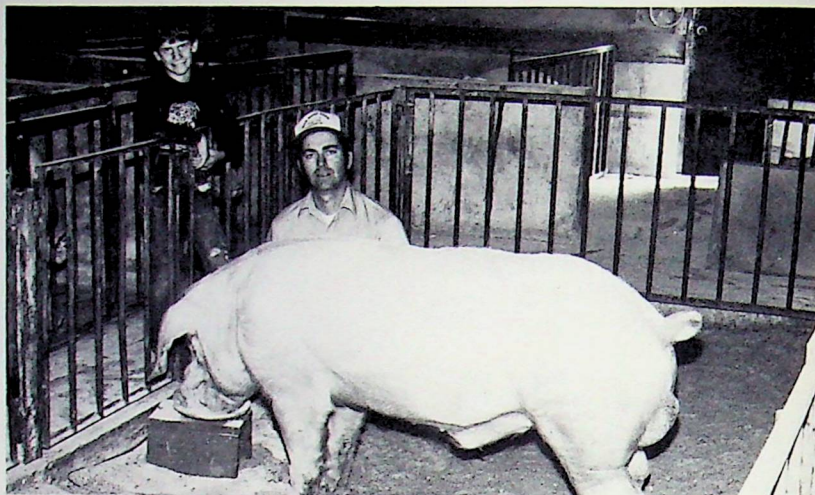
To care for his boars, 100 brood sows and their growing pigs, Reeves mixes his own feed by formulas that he has experimented with and worked out. To reduce the shock of weaning at four weeks, the pigs are kept in heated quarters where the temperature is reduced gradually. He also farms about 1,000 acres that produce small grain used in feed.

Reeves relies heavily on a computer not only for the economics of the business, but for the records necessary for breeding

schedules and genetic information to continually improve the quality and character of the herd. His approach to the farming business is: "What can be done now to

improve quality and production 10 years from now?"

He and his wife, Jackie, have two sons, Charlie and Jack.



Charles E. Reeves, Young Farmer winner in District IV, and his son admire a champion.

Howell

Gary Howell, Young Farmer winner in District III, is a member of the Lamar Chapter. His advisor is Al Jeffords.

Howell, who might be considered an

"eligible bachelor," manages the family farm. Living in "Tobacco country," the Pee Dee area of the state, it is quite natural that his main farm crop is tobacco — 30

acres of it. Besides the tobacco, he plants additional acreage in corn and other small grain.

Howell's "chores" in raising tobacco begin in late winter with the preparation of the seed beds which involves the planting of the seed with the familiar plastic cover to protect the germinating seed from weather and serves as a temporary "hot house." The work continues with planting the young plants, the summer-long cultivation, the stripping of mature leaves, the flue curing and, finally, the trip to the warehouse for the sale.

Howell watches the market and economic trends with the quotas and import factors that go with raising tobacco. He is realistic in his view of farm life by recognizing the need for diversification. He feels that farming is a great life if you are willing to work hard, keep abreast of the latest techniques and gamble that the weather and economy will be kind to you.



Gary Howell, Young Farmer winner in District III, recognizes the need for diversification on the farm.

Award Winners



"Young Farmer Chapter Awards" — Charles Long, Saluda Chapter, District 1 and state winner, Dan Henderson and John Crawford, advisors; George Lucas, Pelion Chapter, District II, Frank R. Stover Jr., advisor; Frankie Woodard, St. John's Chapter, Darlington, District III, Alex Yarborough, advisor; Archie L. Felder III, Bowman Chapter, District IV, Landy Weathers, advisor.



Five-Acre Soybean Contest, left to right, Donnie Pitts, state winner; Frankie Woodard; Landy Weathers; Ed Campbell, regional manager FCX; and Ricky Kneece(not pictured).



"Energy Efficiency Awards" — Al Jeffords, advisor, Delores Hodges, Kenneth Hodges, E.J. Tyson, Duke Power Co.



Livestock Production Awards, left to right, Ray McLin Jr., sponsor, Agribusinessman ConAgra Inc., Walterboro; Charles Long, state winner; Bart Garrison; Archie L. Felder III; Tolbert Mitchell; Patsy Howell Alexander.



At the final session of the association annual meeting on Saturday morning, the young farmers elected leaders for 1985. They are shown, left to right, Harry Wimberly, president, Bowman; Rusty Darby, president-elect, Chester; Charles Long,

District I vice president, Saluda; William Nance, District II vice president, York; Marshall Flowers, District III vice president, Darlington; Archie Felder, District IV vice president, Bowman; and David Shuler, past president, Holly Hill.

Award Winners



David Shuler presents the Outstanding Service Award to Vernal Howard, East Clarendon Chapter, District III.



Kenneth Hodges receives the Energy Efficiency State Winner Award from E.J. Tyson of Duke Power Co.



T.B. Huffman, Hickory Tavern Chapter, receives the Attendance Award from President David Shuler.

Award Winners

David Shuler presents the Outstanding Service Award to James B. Williams of Hickory Tavern Chapter, District I.



Frank Stover, shown with David Shuler, receives the first Honorary Young Farmer Membership

Harry Wimberly, president-elect, presents the Summer Tour Appreciation Award to Edsel Williams and Jerry Pace, Brittons Neck Chapter, District III.



1985 Young Farmer Awards

Young Farmer-of-the-Year Award

\$150 and engraved silver tray to top Young Farmer in each district

\$300 and engraved silver bowl to State Young Farmer of the Year

Sponsored by the Federal Land Bank and Production Credit Associations in South Carolina

Outstanding Chapter Award

First place in each district — \$100 each and engraved plaque
Top Chapter in state — \$300 and engraved plaque

Sponsored by Gold Kist Inc.

Energy Efficiency Award

\$150 cash to the winner in each district

\$300 cash to the state winner

Engraved plaques for Young Farmers and trays for wives

Sponsored by Carolina Power and Light Co., Duke Power Co. and S.C. Electric and Gas Co.

Five-acre Soybean Production Award (Nonirrigated and irrigated categories)

\$100 cash and engraved plaque to top Young Farmer in each district in each category

\$200 cash and engraved plaque to state winner in each category

Sponsored by FCX Inc.

Three-acre Corn Production Award (Nonirrigated and irrigated categories)

\$100 cash and engraved plaque to top Young Farmer in each district in each category

\$200 cash and engraved plaque to state winner in each category

Sponsored by Rohm and Haas Seeds Inc.

Young Farmer Chapter Membership Awards

\$50 cash to chapter with largest member increase

\$50 cash to chapter with largest percentage increase

Sponsored by Southern Grain Storage Distributors

Convention Attendance Award

The Young Farmer chapter with the most points at the State Convention receives \$50 cash

Sponsored by Southern Grain Storage Distributors

Chapter Assistance Award

Engraved plaque to sponsoring chapter

Sponsored by S.C. Association of Young Farmers

Outstanding Service Award

Certificate to member recommended by chapter

Sponsored by S.C. Association of Young Farmers

Livestock Production Award

in the Areas of Beef, Dairy, Swine

\$200 cash to winner in each category and engraved plaque

\$100 cash to second place in each category and engraved plaque

Sponsored by Archer Daniels Midland, Central Soya Inc. and ConAgra Inc.

General Rules of Eligibility

In order to participate in the awards program sponsored by the South Carolina Association of Young Farmers the chapter must be in good standing with the state association. Membership dues with the names and addresses of members must be in the district office by May 31. Individual members submitting dues after May 31 will not be eligible to participate.

Young Farmer members past the age of 40 as of May 31 are not eligible to participate in the awards program or serve as state officers. For details concerning any of the above contact your advisor.



David Shuler receives the Past President's Award from William Sherman of the Nitragin Co., Goldsboro, N.C.



FFA Convention Clemson University June 12-14



Educator Harris Dies

William M. Harris, who retired in 1982 after serving 40 years as an agricultural educator, died Feb. 26 at the age of 64.

Harris served as editor of the *South Carolina Young Farmer - Future Farmer* magazine from 1971 until 1984.

The General Assembly recently passed a current resolution in recognition of his outstanding career and contributions to agriculture.

Harris began his career in Agricultural Education at Oakway High School in 1947. He taught agricultural education at Monticello High School in Fairfield County prior to his appointment in the State Department of Education in 1948.

A native of Oconee County, Harris is a graduate of Fair Play High School and received his B.S. degree in Agricultural Education from Clemson College in 1942. He received his master's degree from the University of South Carolina.

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South Carolina Farm Bureau
South Carolina Pork Board
Southern Grain Storage Distributors
Stauffer Chemical Co.
The Nitragin Co.
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Walnut Grove Auction Co.



A tour and luncheon was arranged for three of FFA's National Officers that visited South Carolina March 6. Pictured left to right are Graham Boyd of Pinetown, N.C. vice president Eastern Region; Nanci Mason of Collins, Miss., vice president Southern Region and Rex Alan Wichert of Fairview, Okla., Star Agribusinessmen of America.

Timber Farming Is Valuable Alternative

By Paul Howe

Farmers and other landowners often overlook tree farming as a land use alternative, yet timber has the highest total crop market value in South Carolina.

Markets for the South's fast-growing pines are expected to expand and timber prices are predicted to increase at a rate higher than inflation. With this in mind, timber growing should be considered a present and future land use.

A recent U.S. Forest Service study revealed that one in four cut-over acres owned by private South Carolina landowners are properly reforested. Another study by the Soil Conservation Service exposed large areas of marginal cropland and pastureland capable of providing more income if converted to pine.

To promote reforestation of cut-over and marginal lands, the Forest Productivity Program, a special project, is being supported by the forest industry and other forestry interests in South Carolina.

Members of county forest productivity committees will visit landowners, inform them of reforestation investment benefits and assist them with planning forest regeneration.

For more information contact Paul Howe, S.C. Forestry Association, P.O. Box 21303, Columbia, S.C. 29221.



Without Farmers You Couldn't Bring Home The Bacon.

Or the eggs, milk, juice and cereal. Or much else to eat, either. Farmers manage the land so efficiently that each one feeds nearly 80 other people. They invest endless hours and large amounts of money, then risk it all in the face of adverse weather, disease, and more. As farmer-owned, farmer-controlled cooperative lenders, we offer farmers the credit they need. As neighbors, you can give them the credit they deserve.

FARMING
spoken here™



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MEETING the CHALLENGE



LEGISLATION



PUBLIC RELATIONS



SERVICES



**Forty Years 1944-84
Ready For The Future**

South Carolina
Farm Bureau Federation